

HOUSE RESOLUTION 140

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Carin' and Sharin' Breast Cancer Education and Support Group, and the founder behind the group, Gwen Brown.

WHEREAS, in 2013 breast cancer affected the lives of 2.8 million women; and

WHEREAS, a woman diagnosed at a later stage of the disease has a higher probability of dying from it; and

WHEREAS; the best way to diagnose breast cancer early is by educating women on the risks and symptoms of breast cancer and to dispel myths; and

WHEREAS, one organization that is attempting to increase education, awareness, and support for women who have breast cancer or have beaten breast cancer is Carin' and Sharin' Breast Cancer Education and Support Group, which will be starting its twenty-fifth anniversary year with a year-long celebration, on Thursday, January 30th, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Carin' and Sharin' was founded twenty-five years ago through the vision of Gwen Brown, a compassionate and committed oncology social worker, and three breast cancer patients at UT Medical Group, Inc. Van Vleet Cancer Center; and

WHEREAS, the group is for any woman who has breast cancer, but specifically wishes to assist African American women in under-served communities; and

WHEREAS, the group's efforts include community outreach by offering breast cancer education to dispel myths, instructions on the correct preparation for mammograms, breast self-examination information and instructions, and knowledge on how to access available and appropriate resources; and

WHEREAS, the other main focus of Carin' and Sharin' is support groups that meet monthly to provide education and encouragement, emotional support, and a time of fellowship with survivors in remission and treatment from a few months to thirty-six years; and

WHEREAS, the information presented at the meetings is completed by healthcare professionals in a comfortable, safe, and confidential environment, which is conducive to intervention, information, referral, and other social work services that are also provided; and

WHEREAS, active group members have access to transportation for the support group sessions with nutritious meals provided at each meeting, special events, wig allowance, and the deductible paid for select mastectomy/lumpectomy supplies; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of the Carin' and Sharin' program have positively impacted the lives of women of Tennessee who suffer or have suffered from breast cancer; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we recognize and applaud the dedicated work of Gwen Brown, the healthcare professionals, and social workers who give of their time to the cause, and Carin' and Sharin' Breast Cancer Education and Support Group for its most excellent mission, and wish them continued success in all their endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.